Appl. No. 09/526,855 Amdt. dated August 26, 2003 Reply to Office Action of February 26, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entering the above amendment to claim 1 and adding new claims 61-65, claims 1-15, 17-40 and 42-65 will be pending in this application and are presented for examination. Claims 4, 9-23, 26-48 and 50-60 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 24, 25 and 49 stand rejected. Claim 16 is now canceled by Applicants without forfeiting any right to pursue canceled subject matter in a subsequent divisional or continuation application.

Claim 1 has been amended to claim the subject matter of the present invention with greater particularity.

New claims 61-65 have been added. Support for new claims 61-65 can be found with compounds 15, 38, 40, 41 and 46, see Examples 4, 9, 8, 7 and 10, respectively. Further support can be found in Figures 1 and 3, as well as the assay data in Table 1.

Applicants believe no new matter is present in this or any other portion of the present amendment.

Applicants express their gratitude to the Examiner for withdrawing the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection over Acosta et al. (J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1994, 1985), as well as for withdrawing the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection over Peeters et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,741,787).

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendment to claim 1 and the following remarks. For the Examiner's convenience and reference, Applicants' remarks are presented in the order in which the corresponding issues were raised in the Office Action.

I. PROVISIONAL OBVIOUSNESS-TYPE DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

The Examiner has provisionally rejected claims 1-3, 5-8, 24, 25 and 49 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-26 of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/180,132. Upon notification that

Appl. No. 09/526,855 Amdt. dated August 26, 2003 Reply to Office Action of February 26, 2003

allowable subject matter is present in the instant application, Applicants will file the appropriate Terminal Disclaimer under 37 CFR § 1.321(c) to overcome the rejection.

II. THE CLAIMS OF THE PRESENT INVENTION ARE NOT ANTICIPATED BY COOK *ET AL*.

The Examiner has maintained the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1-3, 6-8 and 49 in view of Cook *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,073,548). To the extent the rejection is applicable to the amended set of claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants note that the first proviso of claim 1 has been amended to recite the following:

if R^1 is $-C(O)CH_3$, $-N(CH_3)_2$ or $-NHCH_3$, R^2 is hydrogen, R^3 is acetyloxy and R^4 is methyl, then X is other than =0.

The acetyl functional group has been added to radical R^1 of the proviso in order to exclude compounds of Cook *et al*. With this amendment, the claims of the present invention do not encompass the cited compound of Cook *et al*.:

Accordingly, as the compounds of Cook *et al*. are not encompassed by the claims of the present invention, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection has been rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 09/526,855 Amdt. dated August 26, 2003 Reply to Office Action of February 26, 2003

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834 Tel: 925-472-5000

Fax: 415-576-0300

Attachments EGW:lls